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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/774,480	02/10/2004	Sheng Hsin Liao	MR1957-848	8940
4586	7590	10/04/2004	EXAMINER	
ROSENBERG, KLEIN & LEE 3458 ELLICOTT CENTER DRIVE-SUITE 101 ELLICOTT CITY, MD 21043			TSUKERMAN, LARISA Z	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2833	

DATE MAILED: 10/04/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/774,480

Applicant(s)

LIAO, SHENG HSIN

Examiner

Larisa Z Tsukerman

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7-8 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the **first paragraph** of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

It is not clear how the clamping mechanism clamps the second plug because it is coupled to the first electrical plug as states in specification on page 6, line 13.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 5 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, **second paragraph**, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 5 recites the limitation "the conductive members" in line 5. It is unclear as to what "the conductive members" are referred to since there are first 23, second 33 conductive members, and conductive member 60. Also, there is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim if "the conductive members" refers to member 60.

Claim 12 recites the limitation "the conductive wire" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

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The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4, 6 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Eyman (6382996).

Eyman discloses an electrical plug changer, comprising:

a housing 10;

a first electrical plug (not marked, a plug with pins 26) slidably positioned within the housing 10;

a second electrical plug (not marked, a plug with pins 38) slidably positioned within the housing 10;

a linking mechanism 18, positioned between the first electrical plug and the second electrical plug, providing relative movement therebetween (see Col.4, lines 25-30);

and a clamping mechanism 20, 30 and 22,36 connected to and used to clamp the first electrical plug or the second electrical plug when the electrical plugs protrude.

In regard to claim 2, Eyman discloses a first 10 and second 10a cover connected by (screwing or) snapping (see Figs. 8 and 10).

In regard to claim 3, Eyman discloses the first electrical plug includes two first pins 26 inserted into a first mounting frame (not marked) and the first electrical plug is sildably positioned on an upper portion of the housing 10, and wherein the second electrical

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plug includes two second pins 38 inserted into a second mounting frame (not marked) and the second electrical plug is slidably positioned on an upper portion of the housing (see Fig. 8).

In regard to claim 4, Eyman discloses first holes (not marked) and second holes 29 are provided in a front surface 28 of the housing 10, and the first pins 26 of the first electrical plug protrude through the first holes and the second pins 38 of the second electrical plug protrude through the second holes 29.

In regard to claim 6, the two first pins 26 of the first electrical plug and the two second pins 38 of the second electrical plug are inherently electrically connected to an electrical wire, as claimed (see Col.3, lines 55-57).

In regard to claim 9, Eyman discloses a device, which can be modified in the way that a cable jack can be positioned on the housing.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eyman (6382996) in view of Baxter et al. (6109977).

Eyman discloses most of the claimed invention, except for **a rechargeable module** electrically connected to the first electrical plug and the second electrical plug to provide

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electrical power to the rechargeable module by an electrical wire. BB teaches the a rechargeable module. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a rechargeable module of Baxter et al. in structure of Eyman in order to use a plug with alternating power sources.

Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eyman : (6382996) in view of Chung (6325665).

Eyman discloses most of the claimed invention, except for the housing includes a **spool** to store the conductive wire. Chung teaches a wheel 5 to store a wire 4 in the housing. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a spool (wheel) of Chung in structure of Eyman in order to store the wire.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 5 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 7-8 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The Prior Art does not teach or suggests a plug changer particularly characterized by:

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In regard to claim 5, "two first conductive members fixedly positioned on the first mounting frame... the second conductive members fixedly positioned on the second mounting frame, the conductive members are fixedly positioned on the housing... and having a first contact portion and a second contact portion corresponding to the first conductive members and the second conductive members, respectively."

In regard to claim 7, " the linking mechanism includes ... a spur gear" and "the spur gear engages with the first cylindrical members and the second cylindrical members".

In regard to claim 8," the clamping mechanism includes a sliding plate, a protuberance is provided on the sliding plate, the sliding plate being slidably positioned within the housing."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Larisa Z Tsukerman whose telephone number is (571)-272-2015. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A Bradley can be reached on (571)-272-2800 ex. 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

LT, 09/29/004



THO D. TA
PRIMARY EXAMINER